

## Media Advisory

## Help America Vote Act Advisory Board to hold public meeting March 15th

An advisory board created to distribute federal money for election reform in the state of Washington will hold a public meeting in September.

The Help America Vote Act Advisory Board is charged with distributing federal dollars to Washington's 39 counties for a wide range of election reforms.

The meeting will take place at the Shilo Inn Suites Hotel in Ocean Shores, between 10:00 am and 1:00 pm.

The Board will hear staff recommendations on a grant cycle to promote improvements to federal elections as well as review HAVA fund balances and policies affecting distribution of HAVA funds.

The United States Congress passed the Help America Vote Act after the contested race for President in 2000.

Under HAVA, Washington has received over \$70 million to pay for, among other things, the replacement of punch card ballots, the development of a statewide voter registration database, voter education, and electronic voting machines to assist those with disabilities.

Washington Secretary of State Sam Reed has appointed the following members to the Advisory Board:

- Doug Cochran Director of Administration, State Auditor's Office
- Thad Duvall Douglas County Auditor
- Kris Swanson Cowlitz County Auditor
- Vicky Dalton Spokane County Auditor
- Nick Handy Director of Elections
- Michael Rogers Division of Developmental Disabilities
- Debbie Cook Washington Assistive Technology Alliance

For more information or questions, please feel free to contact Lori Guerrero at 360-902-4169 or lori.guerrero@sos.wa.gov.